

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In  International Application No

PCT/IT2004/000148

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B17/70

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 672 175 A (MARTIN JEAN RAYMOND) 30 September 1997 (1997-09-30) abstract; figures 1,15 column 16, lines 16-26 -----	1-3,8,9 10
A		
X	US 5 415 661 A (HOLMES DAVID C) 16 May 1995 (1995-05-16) abstract; figures 2,3 column 12, lines 48-50 -----	1-3
X	US 5 725 582 A (BEVAN DAVID ROBIN ET AL) 10 March 1998 (1998-03-10) abstract; figure 5 column 5, line 56 - column 6, line 11 ----- -/--	1,8



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 July 2004

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04/08/2004

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A	US 5 562 737 A (GRAF HENRY) 8 October 1996 (1996-10-08) abstract; figure 11 column 5, lines 1-9 -----	1,2
A	US 6 074 390 A (ZUCHERMAN JAMES F ET AL) 13 June 2000 (2000-06-13) column 8, lines 15-22; figure 33 -----	1

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